

Message Text

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46

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 CPR-01 IO-13 CU-02 OC-06

CCO-00 EB-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 L-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 PPT-01

WRD-01 SY-05 USSS-00 A-01 OPR-02 /089 W

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R 091120Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8274

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PDIP, GB

SUBJECT: GABONESE AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE KOMBILAS TRAVEL

1. AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE RENE KOMBILA CALLED AT EMBASSY MORNING OF SEPT 9 ON EVE OF DEPARTURE TO TAKE UP HIS NEW POST IN WASHINGTON. KOMBILA, WIFE AND 5 CHILDREN TRAVELLING TO US VIA TWA FLIGHT ARRIVING DULLES AIRPORT 1530 SEPT 11.

2. PRESIDENT BONGO REQUESTED THAT KOMBILA BE IN NEW YORK DURING PRESIDENT'S PRIVATE VISIT SEPT 16- 19 WHICH IS REASON FOR KOMBILAS SUDDEN EXODUS.

3. KOMBILA PLANS TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR DIRECT CONTACT WITH BONGO AND NEW FONMIN IN NEW YORK TO RAISE SEVERAL ISSUES OF INTEREST TO EMBASSY. FOR EXAMPLE, HE HOPES TO BE ABLE TO OBTAIN AUTHORIZATION TO GRANT DEPARTMENT COURIERS ONE YEAR MULTIPLE ENTRY VISAS WHICH WOULD GREATLY FACILITATE THEIR OVERNIGHTING IN LIBREVILLE (SUBJECT SEPT-EL). HE ALSO PROMISED TO RAISE AGAIN THE POSSIBILITY OF A GABONESE CONTRIBUTION TO THE KENNEDY CENTER AFRICAN ROOM.

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4. MOST INTERESTING TIDBIT KOMBILA IMPARTED WAS THE
HE HAS PRESIDENTIAL AUTHORITY AND FUNDS TO SETTLE
OUTSTANDING GABONESE EMBASSY DEBTS IN US. KOMBILA SAID THAT
MINISTRY OF FINANCE ISPECTOR WOULD FOLLOW HIM TO
WASHINGTON WITHIN WEEK TO TEN DAYS WITH AUTHORITY AND
CASH TO SETTLE THESE DEBTS. STEIGMAN

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Message Attributes

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